

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action dated January 25, 2007 rejected claims 1, 12, 21, 22 and their respective dependent claims under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. In particular, the Examiner pointed out that the claims “included language that employs a histogram of a luminance distribution in conjunction with predetermined ranges. However, the Specification was not found to include support for these limitations employed in convert with one another.” (Page 4 of the Office Action)

The claim language “a luminance level of a predetermined range” in claims 1, 12, 21 and 22 has been changed to “a predetermined low-luminance-level” to eliminate any confusion. This amendment is supported by the description, for example, on lines 18-26, page 13 in the specification.

Further, the Office Action dated January 25, 2007 rejected claims 1, 12, 21, 22 and their respective dependent claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 12, 21, 22 have been amended to conform with current US practice and the indefiniteness of the language “area” has been amended to clearly identify “areas of an image sensor.”

Applicant believes the rejections have been overcome base on the above amendment and remarks. Withdrawal of the rejections of the claims on these bases is requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 1232-4680. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 1232-4680. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: April 4, 2007

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